

It's Saturday,



Let's Do Church!

**WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

A BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

June 7, 2025

4:30 p.m.

*“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
mortals that you care for them.
Yet you have made them a little lower than,
God and crowned them with glory and honor.
You have given them dominion over the works of your hands.”*

Psalm 8:4-6

OUR STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We are:

PROGRESSIVELY UNTRADITIONAL: 21st century minds in a 1717 Meetinghouse!

JOYOUSLY INCLUSIVE: Radically open and affirming, all ages, races, gender and sexual orientation, everyone is welcome exactly as you are.

EXPRESSLY “ON THE WAY”: Faith is a journey. Journey with us!

COMMITTEDLY IN THE COMMUNITY: In helping others, we become our true selves.

GOD GATHERS US



*OPENING SONG

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Refrain

**All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.**

**Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors, and made their tiny wings.**

Refrain

**The purple headed mountain, the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning sun that brightens up the sky.**

Refrain

**The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one.**

Refrain

WELCOME

Pastor Christine Burns

One: Hello, I’m Pastor Christie, here is Pastor Reed, and our musicians today are Steve Gregory and the band and together we are

All: ONE diverse community

Growing up in faith

Reaching out in love

One: it is good when God's people and animals are here together, and so we can rejoice, because,

All: It's Saturday, Let's do church!

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God has blessed us with a wonderful creation

All: Behold, God is good and has given us animals as part of that creation.

One: Animals who keep us company when we are lonely,

All: who become part of our families,

One: who help to comfort us when we are sad,

All: who remind us about what is important in life.

One: Some animals help us to see or hear,

All: And some break down the barriers between people.

One: We are animals, too--

All: Let us celebrate all of God's creatures.

UNISON PRAYER

Hear our humble prayer, O God, for our friends, the animals, your creatures. We pray especially for all that are suffering in any way: for the overworked and underfed, the hunted, lost, or hungry; for all in captivity or ill-treated, and for those near death. For all of those who deal with them, we ask a gentle heart of compassion, gentle hands, and kindly words. Make us all true friends to animals and worthy followers of our merciful Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.



THE LORD'S PRAYER (we will sing this in echo fashion)

Our Father... who art in Heaven... hallowed be thy name...

Thy kingdom come... thy will be done... on Earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day... our daily bread... and forgive us all our sins...

And lead us not... into temptation... but deliver us from evil.

Unison:

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory

Echo:

Forever... and ever...

Our Father... who art in Heaven... hallowed be thy name.

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED



SACRED WORDS FOR SACRED SPACE

Psalm 8

SPECIAL SONG

Move It On Over

Hank Williams

REFLECTION

Pastor Christie Burns

A POEM

The Sweetness of Dogs

Mary Oliver



A TIME OF PRAYER

O God who created animals and who has given our pets into our care, we give you thanks for veterinarians, for animal rescue organizations, animal shelters and pet adoption programs, for pet owners and all who care for animals. We honor their work and pray for their continued service to pets and other animals.

Blessing the Memory of Pets who have Died

One: It is the way of this world that the life span of our animals is short, and we lose them to death, yet we remember them with joy. We give heartfelt thanks for those of our animals who have gone on before us. In this time of silence, I invite you to name all of the animals who have shaped and taught you how to be a better human. If you would like a special blessing for your departed pet as well at the animal blessing time, simply tell me or Pastor Reed their names and we will offer a special blessing for the pets who have gone on before us. Amen.

INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS

Our gifts support the ministries of this congregation here and,
through its outreach, the wider community.

*If you are a guest here today, this service is our gift to you,
please do not feel obligated in any way.*

Venmo QR code and instructions are on page 7.

WE ARE GLAD YOU WORSHIPPED WITH US TODAY!

All people, young and old and in-between, are lifted wherever they are on the journey. We look forward to worshipping with you again soon!
Pastors Christie Burns and Reed Baer

Christie holds coffee hours at Nirvana in Barnstable Village on Tuesdays from 11 am -noon. Call, text, or email for an appointment: 508-494-6409 associatepastor@westparish.org.

“Saturday School” is underway, a special class for our youngsters, held over in Jenkins Hall, led by Pastor Reed and an adult lay teacher/volunteer, during the last 20 minutes of the service. Interested in joining in as a teacher or an extra pair of hands, speak to Reed after church.

Would you like to play in the Saturday Band? Contact Steve G.



by recycling this bulletin.

Need to get connected? Wi-Fi: Meetinghouse Password: 1717Rooster



Venmo @WestParish or scan the QR code.

To make a donation, simply scan the QR code with your phone’s camera or search “@WestParish” on the Venmo app.

Be sure you select “West Parish of Barnstable” under the charity profiles.

If you would like your donation to go toward something specific like “Deacons”, note that in the description.

Church Staff

Reed Baer, Pastor and Teacher
Paula King, Music Director
Susan Moeller, Council Chair
Chris Haven, Sexton

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor
Susan McEwen, Office Administrator
Bobbie Jordan, Deacons Chair
Alycia Williams, Family School Director

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BBQ DINNER

on the lawn at West Parish

SATURDAY, JUNE 14

Starting June 14th from 4pm to 6pm we will begin our Chicken BBQ dinners! They will happen every two weeks this summer here at West Parish. Meals will be cooked by our in house chefs Tripp Grohe, Alycia Williams, and Ted Gould.

The dinners will consist of :

- Half of a BBQ chicken
- Pasta salad
- Potato Salad
- Corn on the Cob
- A variety of desserts

*To place an order, please email
director@westparishfamilyschool.org*

*Tickets are \$10, and payment can be
made through Venmo or cash at the door*

LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

*Bring your own chairs or blankets to
sit outside and enjoy the festivities!*

Saturday	6/7/25	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	6/8/25	10:00 am 11:15 am 5:00 pm	Worship Council (G) AA (J)
Monday	6/9/25	10:30 am 5:00 pm	FS Classes (J) AA (J)
Tuesday	6/10/25	11:00 am 5:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Christie's Coffee Hours at Nirvana AA (J) WITS at Pastor Christie's W. Barnstable Festival Committee (G)
Wednesday	6/11/25	12:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	Bible Study (G & Z) FS Board (G) AA (J)
Thursday	6/12/25	8:00 am 3:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast at Jack's Out Back FS End of Year Fair (lawn) Mini Golf Tourn. at Sandwich Mini-Golf 6A AA (J)
Friday	6/13/25	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
Saturday	6/14/25	4:00-6:00 pm 4:30 pm	BBQ Dinner Worship

Key: FS = Family School; G = Guild Room; J = Jenkins Hall; M = Meetinghouse; Z = Zoom

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment.

Care for the poor.

Forgive often.

Reject racism.

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity.

Love God.

Enjoy this life.

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

